MILLENNIAL STAR

The Monthly Magazine on MORMONISM

Vol. 109, No. 12 December, 1947

LEICESTER SELECTED AS 1948 MISSION CONFERENCE SITE

THE **Millennial Star** takes pride in announcing to the British Saints the successful conclusion of negotiations to hold the 1948 British Mission-wide Conference in the beautiful De Montfort Hall in Leicester on May 22nd and 23rd.

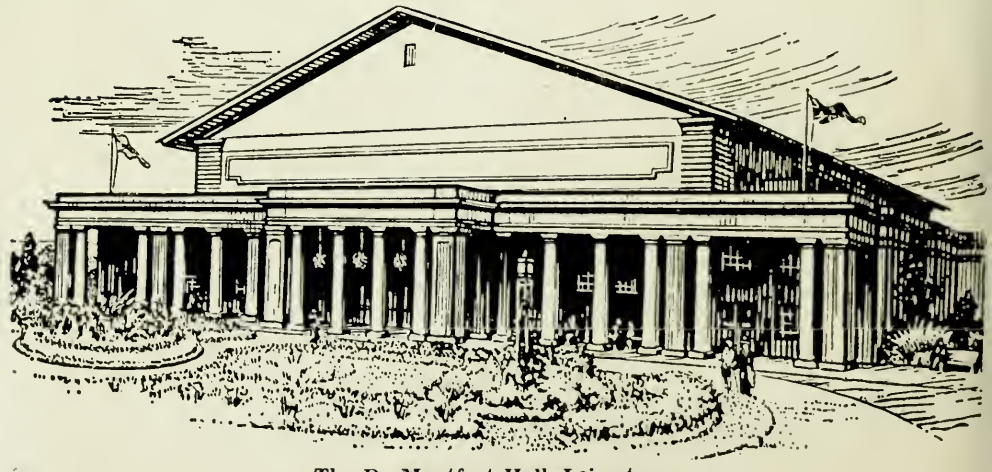
The British Mission Presidency urges every Latter-day Saint and friend in Great Britain to begin immediate plans to attend this "greatest-of-all" annual conferences.

Being centrally located, Leicester is an ideal conference city. Train departures after the last scheduled session of conference make it possible for everyone to get to any part of the country in time for work on Monday morning.

Many branches will, no doubt, charter buses for the journey. They, too, will find these facilities especially favourable to and from Leicester.

Everyone will be pleased also with the beauty and charmingly exclusive setting of the De Montfort Hall. This spacious hall can accommodate over 3,000 persons in comfortable seats. A great pipe organ and stage for presenting all the lovely things so dear to the hearts of the Latter-day Saints will all add to the enjoyment of everyone in attendance at the conference.

Remember, it's LEICESTER for the week-end of MAY 22nd and 23rd.



The De Montfort Hall, Leicester

★ THE LATTER-DAY SAINTS' ★

MILLENNIAL STAR

108th Year DECEMBER 1947 Vol. 109 No. 12

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THIS MONTH'S COVER — — — — — WINTER ON TEMPLE SQUARE

TEMPLE SQUARE in Salt Lake City, after a freshly fallen snow, takes on the appearance of an enchanted wonderland. The towering spires of the Temple rising above the snow laden trees and foliage of the Temple Grounds is a sight not soon to be forgotten.

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JESUS THE MESSIAH
THE SAVIOUR OF THE WORLD

EDITOR'S NOTE: This is the first in a series of six articles by Professor James Louis Barker, current French Mission President. Professor Barker is the author of "Protestors of Christendom," a recent publication telling of the apostacy of the early Christian Church. He has served as head of the Modern Language Department at the University of Utah and acted as lecturer and demonstrator in the U.S. Immigration and Naturalisation Service. He is a former president of the Argentine Mission.

■

By James L. Barker
President of the
French Mission

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DOES man need divine leadership? Does life have a high purpose?

Man, the child of his Heavenly Father, has been taught to pray, "Our Father which art in heaven." His possibilities and his importance as a Son of God are indicated by the command, "Be ye perfect, even as your Father in Heaven is perfect."

Man developed in the world of spirits where he lived in the presence of his Father and was taught by Him; but he needed independent action that he might attain still greater strength. To enable him to gain new experience, grow in intelligence, and develop good will and love—"that he might have joy" —this world was created for his home.

It is, of necessity, a world of law; and disobedience to law, physically or spiritually, entails suffering. Nevertheless, God does not force man to obey, but permits him in perfect freedom to choose between good and evil. For only in freedom is it possible for man to grow and develop and have joy as a child of God; and only in freedom, does his conduct have ethical and religious value.

The plan for man's development was made before the creation of the world. It is not arbitrary. It is the outcome of the wisdom and experience of Jesus and the Father—it is the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

The plan is easy to understand: man would lose his memory of the preexistence and thus, in his choice between good and evil, would not be greatly influenced by the fear of punishment nor the hope of reward. He would choose to do right because of the love of the good. He would be subjected to the false attractions of evil. However, witnesses would be given who would testify to the existence and goodness of his Heavenly Father, who would teach the truths necessary for man's progress and true happiness. If man loved the good, he would examine the credibility of the witnesses; would be led to accept the richer life of obedience to the gospel of love, of service and of joy; and would then try to conform his life to the teachings and will of God. If he accepted the testimony of the witnesses and willed to obey, he would be shown a covenant he could make with his Heavenly Father—the covenant of baptism—by which covenant he would do the will of his Heavenly Father—both in avoiding evil and in doing good—and he would be forgiven his sins. Then, to confirm his belief with a knowledge or testimony of the truth and to guide and aid him in the doing of good, he would receive the gift of the Holy Ghost. In this divine testimony he would experience the joy of the love and nearness of God.

In the spirit world, the Author of this plan for our happiness was Jesus Christ. Because of His intelligence, obedience, devotion and love, He was chosen before the world was organised to be the Only Begotten of the Father

and the Saviour of the world. It was He who was chosen to direct the forces of good from the heavens until He should be born into the world to teach by precept and example, exemplifying all of His teachings by His conduct.

Before the birth of the Saviour, the Jews had lost a sense of relative values. They observed the letter of the law but not the spirit. They had forgotten to stress the fatherhood of God and the brotherhood of man—the Greek and Roman civilisations were built on a foundation of slavery. It was a cruel world.

Jesus emphasised or restored simple but important basic truths: the fatherhood of God, the brotherhood of man, the dignity and worth of the human soul, the virtues that should characterise relationships of men to God and to one another: equality, justice, mercy, love. The wages of sin are sorrow and death. Consequently Jesus hated sin. He taught goodness and its natural reward, happiness. Though the Son of God, He was born in humble circumstances and lived simply. He loved and understood all men. He restored the Gospel: the plan to bring peace, unity, happiness individually and collectively to the world.

Death for all mankind had come to the world because of the disobedience of our first parents. Jesus came to atone for that sin and brought the resurrection to all. We remember with gratitude and love His great sacrifice. We should remember why He made the sacrifice. It was that happiness might come to others. He gave His life that we might live. He never suffered for suffering's sake. When sacrifice and suffering meant happiness for others, when He had to suffer in order to accomplish His great mission, then He had the courage, the devotion, the love to suffer—even to be crucified. There is no virtue in suffering for suffering's sake. We should remember the Gospel He gave, the example He set. His glorious life. He went about doing good and thus showed the way to happiness. What superb joy He must have

James L. Barker

experienced as He healed the sick, as He blessed little children, and He gave hope and comfort to the spiritually hungry multitude. What joy He must have experienced when after His baptism He saw the spirit of God descending like a dove upon Him and heard His Father's voice saying, "This is my beloved Son in whom I am well pleased."

He lived the Gospel He taught. We should remember His kindness to those in trouble, His courage and willingness to sacrifice "to bring life and that more abundantly" to mankind. We should remember Him as He courageously went to Jerusalem in fulfilment of His mission even though He knew it meant His death. We should remember the glorious triumph of His resurrection.

All the powers of evil were arrayed against Him. He was misunderstood, wrongfully accused and, in the accomplishment of His ministry, put to death. He is the world's most courageous hero. He is the Saviour of the world.

Before His birth on earth, He revealed Himself to the prophets and instructed them. During His life on the earth, He chose helpers, taught and directed them. After His death and resurrection He continued to choose and direct His servants by means of the Holy Ghost.

—continued on page 384

FIRST PRESIDENCY SETS DECEMBER FAST DAY FOR AID TO EUROPEANS

THE hearts of all our people have gone out to the suffering peoples of Europe. We have sent to our Saints in Europe large quantities of food and clothing which have greatly relieved their distress. We are continuing to send to them from our Welfare supplies to the extent possible, having in mind our own absolute necessities here. How much we send in the future will depend upon how fully the people co-operate in carrying out our Welfare programme.

But the time has come when we should make our due contribution towards helping to feed and clothe the millions who are still unrelieved in the countries of Europe where the ravages of war have caused such great woe, grief, and suffering.

The Council of the First Presidency and Quorum of Twelve have, after careful and prayerful consideration, been led to fix the regular December Fast Day of this year as a day on which the Saints, each of them, may contribute the greatest sum they feel they can give to the relief of the sufferers of war-torn Europe. The total sum collected on this day will be sent to recognised organisations having in charge general relief measures for Europe.

The Lord has commanded us to feed the hungry and clothe the poor. Remember the word of Paul to the Corinthians:

"But this I say, he which soweth sparingly shall reap also sparingly; and he which soweth bountifully shall reap also bountifully.

"Every man according as he purposeth in his heart, so let him give; not grudgingly, or of necessity; for God loveth a cheerful giver."

We exhort every man, woman, and child claiming membership in the Church to give cheerfully on the regular December Fast Day—one Fast Day out of the twelve regularly held during the year—as much as he can possibly spare from his own needs. And in judging his needs, let him remember how much more he has than have the European sufferers.

Let us remember the teachings of our Lord on that last day in the Temple before His crucifixion:

"Then shall the King say unto them on His right hand, Come, ye blessed of my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world:

"For I was an hungered, and ye gave me meat: I was thirsty, and ye gave me drink: I was a stranger, and ye took me in:

"Naked, and ye clothed me: I was sick, and ye visited me: I was in prison, and ye came unto me.

"Then shall the righteous answer him, saying, Lord, when saw we thee an hungered, and fed thee? or thirsty, and gave thee drink?

"When saw we thee a stranger, and took thee in? or naked, and clothed thee?

"Or when saw we thee sick, or in prison, and same unto thee?

"And the King shall answer and say unto them, Verily I say unto you, Inasmuch as ye have done it unto one of the least of these my brethren; ye have done it unto me."

As we give, so will the Lord bless us,

GEORGE ALBERT SMITH,
J. REUBEN CLARK, Jnr.,
DAVID O. McKAY,
The First Presidency.

CHRISTMAS REFLECTIONS

By Alma Sonne

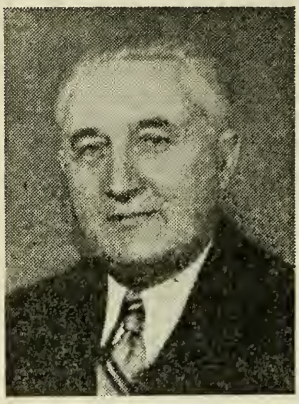
THE holiday season is approaching. Every Christian nation will celebrate Christmas. This year, as in the past, more attention will probably be given to the day than to Him whose birth is commemorated. The reason for this is clear. Jesus is not understood. History has failed to account for Him.

The unbeliever is baffled before the greatest and most attractive character in human history. No one has offered a satisfactory explanation of His life and His appearance among men except the one He, Himself, submitted. "I came forth from the father"—"Ye are from beneath, I am from above"—"If ye have seen me ye have seen the father" —in these words He classified Himself and justified His claims.

Jesus of Galilee is the Son of God. If this conviction were deeply implanted in the human mind, Christmas would at once become a day of worship and religious observance and the sordid demonstrations of hilarity and mockery characteristic of present-day celebrations would automatically disappear.

Jesus Christ deserves every homage. He has no rival, no parallel, no substitute. Everything connected with His life compels respect and attention. He, alone, has left an example for all men to follow. His character is without a flaw and His life without a blemish. His teachings have stood the test of centuries while the theories, sophistertes, and methods of others have signally failed. He was the master of every situation. The wisdom of the wisest men perished before the searching eyes of His scrutiny and the profound comprehensiveness of His understanding.

Jesus, from first to last, was the great Teacher. He taught the learned Nicodemus, the rich young ruler, the pagan-minded Pontius Pilate, and His gospel was preached to the poor. His truths were hung on every circumstance. His words will not die. He was the embodiment of truth in all of its manifestations. He personified the qualities that make for leadership.



Alma Sonne
European Mission President and Assistant to the Council of the Twelve

We see Him as the one world leader to whom humanity can look for guidance and deliverance. His bid for such leadership was emphasised when He said: "And other sheep I have, which are not of this fold: them also I must bring, and they shall hear my voice; and there shall be one fold, and one shepherd." (St. John 10:16) This statement constitutes a call to all nations, races and people. None are excluded. His gospel is the remaining hope of the world.

The most solemn obligation resting upon professing Christians today is to accept His doctrines of salvation without reservations and without the modifications introduced by the philosophies of man. His pronouncements are still in force and effect. They are binding upon God's children now and always. Their rejection has been the cause of discord, confusion and unhappiness. The true spirit of Christmas is the spirit of Him who is "the light of the world."

FROM ROME TO ZION

By James R. Hunter Bailey

EDITOR'S NOTE: The author, James R. Hunter Bailey, tells of the circumstances by which he, as a Roman Catholic, shortly before his scheduled entrance into the Catholic priesthood, discovered and recognised the Restored Gospel of Jesus Christ. Mr. Bailey is a former Major of the British Army, where he served on the staff of the Eighth Army. Prior to this, he was a consultant and manager of luxury hotels in Europe. He was baptised into the Church on October 18th at the South London Branch Chapel.

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THE journey from Rome to Zion is a stormy one and is beset by many difficulties. I found that deep valleys of distrust and rivers of doubt had to be crossed before I, as a Roman Catholic, could see the way clear to joining the Church which, by God's grace, I have just entered.

But I was soon to discover that the person who approaches the problem with a mind free from prejudice soon finds that there are passes leading him through the valleys of distrust and that bridges are provided for him to cross the rivers of doubt. At any rate, that is what I, myself, found after I had decided to put away prejudice and when I set out in the investigation which brought me from the Church of Rome to the family of Saints of these latter-days.

It was during this last summer, whilst I was travelling in France, that I first met the Mormon missionaries. At first I was extremely sceptical of the doctrine which they expounded to me, just as, I suppose, everyone is sceptical on first contact with the claims of a church which is new in their experience, and which, to say the least, is unorthodox when judged from the Catholic standpoint.

However, I was impressed by the great sincerity of the missionaries I met. In fact, it was the sincerity and obvious earnestness of these young men which attracted me to them, but it was with a feeling of great superiority that I asked them to explain their doctrine to me. I was interested in hearing their point of view merely because I had always taken pleasure in learning about other religions, but then only with the object of proving to myself how far from the truth all other religions were, when compared with Roman Catholicism.

I had fully expected that in this case, too, I should have been able to bolster my own belief in Catholicism by dismissing from my mind what I considered to be the absurd claims of just one more sect. I had even secretly hoped that I might, in the course of my conversations with the missionaries, weaken their own faith in Mormonism in favour of the Church to which I, myself, belonged, and in which I felt myself so firmly established.

But things turned out differently. This time I found myself up against something that could not be dismissed so easily from my mind. The claims of the Latter-day Saints were something new in my experience. Hitherto, I had had to contend only with Protestantism in its various forms. I had never yet met another church which claimed to be the true and only Church of Christ and which asserted these claims over and against those of every other church. For such, I was told, were the claims of the Mormons.

APOSTACY ?

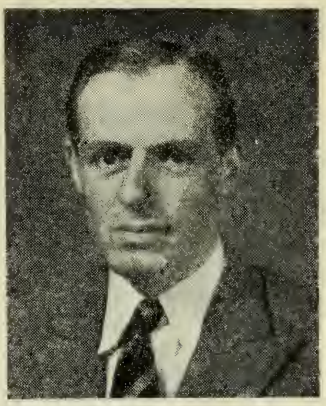
I was told of the restoration of the holy priesthood, of the refounding of the Church of Christ, which had become necessary owing to apostasy throughout the centuries. I could not, at first, agree that an apostasy had occurred, at any rate, in the Church to which I belonged, although I admitted that an apostasy had probably taken

place in the Eastern Church. The term apostasy, I felt, could hardly be applied to the Protestant churches of the West, as they were born in heresy and would remain in darkness until they finally returned to the fold of the true church. Such a thesis, however, seemed to me to be reasonable and consistent with scriptural teaching.

But the Holy Catholic Church could not be wrong, I felt. Was she not preserved from error by the gift of the Holy Ghost and by papal infallibility? Was it not her mission to lead all men into the paths of truth? In my mind there could be no doubt of it. The American missionaries, however, raised questions which gave me food for serious thought. I decided to investigate. My investigation failed to reassure me. I felt uneasy; I felt that my faith was built rather on dogmatic assertion than on reason or even on historical fact.

It will be noted that so far I have made no reference to the claims of the Book of Mormon, for it was not until some time after my first meeting with the Mormon missionaries that I consented to read the book. I was in no other frame of mind than that of the critic, and at that a critic who was severely prejudiced against it. In the meantime, an interesting book had come into my possession entitled, "Protestors of Christendom," by Professor James L. Barker, which book is now a standard work of reference in the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints.

History, I have always been taught, was a matter of fact rather than of point of view. One may dispute the reasons for certain actions on the part of persons, but one cannot argue with facts as such, when once one is satisfied that such facts, as recorded, are true. I found myself face to face with such a situation when I set out to read the book written by Professor Barker. This book is intended to show how an apostasy had taken place inside the Christian Church, beginning even in the earliest days, and in defence of his



James R. Hunter Bailey

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statements, the author quotes a host of facts which, from the historical viewpoint alone, were worthy of careful examination.

AUTHORITY ? — PAPAL INFALIBILITY ?

When once I had called in question some of the doctrines of the Catholic Church, and after I had had knocked from under me planks in the platform on which the Catholic Church bases her authority—a divine commission given to Peter, the rock on which the Church was to be founded, and its corrollary, papal infallibility, in the teaching of matters of faith, my belief in Roman Catholicism suffered something of a landslide.

To my mind the claims of the Latter-day Saints seemed no longer incongruous, but, indeed, reasonable. The more I read about the Mormon Church, the more strongly did I feel that I had met a creed which commanded great respect. The Book of Mormon took on an aspect of truthfulness. I became feverishly interested in comparing the prophecies of the Book of Mormon with those in the Bible. The Bible, itself, when once I had brought myself to read it impassionately and objectively, took on a new interest for me. Writing which, hitherto, had seemed to my

—continued on page 381

MANCHESTER DISTRICT REBUILDING

This is the twelfth in a series of articles concerning the various districts of the British Mission. District President George W. Bruerton writes the following report concerning the Manchester District:

WHEN the policy of consolidating the branches in the British Mission was completed, the Manchester District had shrunk from seven to two, the remaining ones being Rochdale and Oldham. The chapel owned by the Church in Manchester was sold and the members were expected to travel to one of the remaining branches for services, Sunday School etc.

Transportation difficulties caused many to stay away and these are numbered among the "lost members." The task of seeking them out and reviving them is a difficult one.

The concentration of population in this area has created a housing shortage and it is difficult to secure lodgings for the missionaries or places in which to hold services. The sight of beautiful church buildings now being used as factories or warehouses indicates the apathetic attitude toward religion in this district.

With the acquisition of a suitable building as headquarters which can also be used for services, the picture is rapidly changing. Today there are branches either in formation or planned at Hyde, Radcliffe, Stockport, and Denton, with the accompanying auxiliaries, Sunday School, M.I.A. and Primary.

The branches at Rochdale and Oldham are well established and are functioning with some degree of efficiency, but there still remains much to be done to achieve the ideals embodied in the Church programme (complete achievement will not be attained under the present world conditions, however.)

For forty years the District Conferences have been held at the Co-operative Hall in Downing Street, with the exception of a ten-year interval during the war and post-war period. On November 9th the conference was held in this former location and an attendance of 175 marked the occasion. It was touching to see the re-union of Saints who in years past faithfully attended these gatherings, to watch the eager seeking out of former acquaintances and the warm embrace or handshake that seemed to say, "Well, here we are again back home in Downing Street." The well-advertised meetings reached a number of members who have moved and whose address has been lost. In addition the meetings were attended by a number of investigators.

A series of "work days" is under way for the purpose of bringing the Saints together in the brotherhood of the priesthood in a manner similar to that followed in Zion. In a recent street meeting it was charged that this system cannot function in a capitalistic land. We must meet that challenge by showing that it can and DOES work wherever the gospel message is accepted and made the basis upon which our daily life is built. Manchester District will arise to this call and make 1948 a memorable year of progress and achievement!

BRITISH MISSION PHOTOS REQUESTED

BEGINNING with the January issue, the front cover of the **Millennial Star** will contain views of Mission chapels and halls, spots of British Mission historical interest, and missionary activities. All readers of the **Star** are urged to sumbit to the Star Offices any photos that are believed to be suitable for this purpose. Acknowledgement will be given for all pictures used.

MESSAGE from the MISSION PRESIDENCY

BRIEFLY, the Church Welfare Programme, organised in April, 1936, is a plan to ensure the temporal welfare of Church members. It is a long-time programme based on eternal principles clearly set forth in the Standard Works of the Church. (See D. and C. 104: 13-18; 75: 28, 29; Jacob 2: 18, 19.) Under the programme, those in a position to give of their services, contribute according to their ability and those in need of assistance are given according to their needs. Thus it becomes an organised opportunity to fulfil the commandment given by God to love one's neighbour as himself.

It is a programme of work and not a dole. "The aim of the Church is to help the people to help themselves. Work is to be re-enthroned as the ruling principle of the lives of our Church membership." (Elder Ezra Taft Benson)

In the recent past, the leadership of the Church has warned the people against certain situations and told them to have on hand sufficient provisions to last one year. Thus all Church members are encouraged to have their own vegetable and fruit gardens; to process food for their own home use; and to sew and provide their clothing and bedding needs.

President Alma Sonne has said that Welfare Work is production, distribution, and rehabilitation. Welfare Work entails foresight, economy, and work. The branch president and Relief Society president of each branch should handle the administration of the programme and are therefore responsible for the welfare of those in need.

Accomplishments of the Welfare Programme are innumerable. It has supplied much food and clothing to the Saints in war-scarred Europe. In other countries, where law permits, food, clothing, and shelter have been provided for the needy through this programme. Then, too, it has instilled within the hearts of Church members the desire for unselfish activity in the interest of their fellowmen.

We encourage you all to lend your full support to this inspired programme of temporal welfare.

Selvoy J Boyer
Wallace R. Reid
George A Tait

Report on the British Mission Sunday School

By William O. Chipping

Superintendent, British Mission Sunday Schools

"TRAIN up a child in the way he should go, and when he is old he will not depart from it."

Sunday, October 26th, marked the ending of a series of Sunday School Conventions held throughout the British Mission during the months of September and October. Seven Conventions were successfully convened with attendances as follows:

Districts.	Attendance.
Liverpool Manchester	189
Sheffield	
Norwich	65
Birmingham	185
Nottingham ..	
London	184
Bristol	42
Hull Leeds	130
Newcastle	
Welsh	45

These attendance figures are indicative of the enthusiasm and good spirit prevailing among the workers in the great Sunday School cause. In all of the Conventions a very fine spirit was manifest. It was indeed thrilling to see and hear the young children of the Church actively participating on the programme.

THE PREPARED TEACHER

In all of the Conventions, particular stress was placed on the Sunday School theme for the year, "The Prepared Teacher—the Strength of the Sunday School." In many ways, both by the spoken word and by active demonstration, the need of effective teaching was brought into full prominence. It is now felt that the standard of teaching is being considerably raised within the Sunday School classes. The following poem will best express the aim of every sincere teacher:

BUILDING A TEMPLE

A builder builded a temple
He wrought it with grace and skill;
Pillars and groins and arches
All fashioned to work his will.
Men said as they saw its beauty,
"It shall never know decay.
Great is thy skill O builder;
Thy fame shall endure for aye."

A teacher builded a temple
With loving an infinite care
Planning each arch with patience,
Lying each stone with prayer,
None praised her unceasing efforts
None knew of her wondrous plan,
For the temple the teacher builded
Was unseen by the eyes of man.

Gone is the builder's temple,
Crumbled into the dust;
Low lies each stately pillar,
Food for consuming rust.
But the temple the teacher builded
Will last while the ages roll,
For that beautiful unseen temple
Is a child's immortal soul.

—Hattie Vose Hall

APPRECIATION

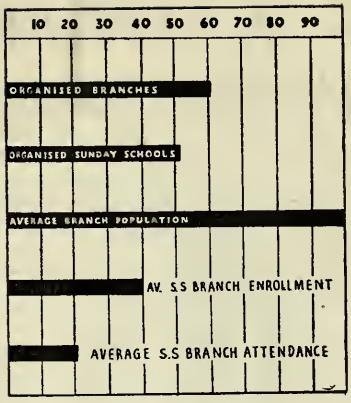
Reports received from the various Board members of the Mission concern-

ing the Conventions are very heartening. Many encouraging remarks were expressed by those in attendance. George H. Smith, a Board member from Leeds District, writes, "I feel that the Convention came to a close with everyone feeling that it had been a spiritual feast, with all desiring to work for the advancement of the Sunday School work." The Sunday School Board is indeed grateful to all who so unselfishly gave of their time and talents for the good of the work.

PROGRESS

There are at present fifty-two organised Sunday Schools in the Mission out of a total of sixty-one organised branches. New Sunday Schools are opening frequently. The average branch population is 100. Out of this total of 6,000 members in the Mission, the average Sunday School Branch attendance is twenty-one, making a total of 1,100 persons attending Sunday School each week.

The work is still going forward. The Sunday School Board is counting on all members to become Sunday School conscious, and to realise the significance of this work. With this implanted in all our hearts, the Sunday School movement will reach new heights in Britain. If we can all exercise humility and diligence, faith and prayer, love and kindness, this important work will make rapid progress, and so—on to 1948.


10 20 30 40 50 60 70 80 90
ORGANISED BRANCHES
ORGANISED SUNDAY SCHOOLS
AVERAGE BRANCH POPULATION
AV. S.S BRANCH ENROLLMENT
AVERAGE S.S BRANCH ATTENDANCE

St. Albans Branch Sunday School, London District
This Sunday School is making rapid progress. The average attendance is now forty. Horace H. Smith is the Superintendent

A DYNAMIC CHURCH

By Wallace G. Bennett
Secretary, European Mission

"I AM delighted to learn there is a religion in this country which is growing." So said an affable R.A.F. officer to me as he alighted from our train enroute to Liverpool recently. Our conversation directed my thoughts around three questions.

What is the condition of religion in Great Britain today?

Thinking people throughout this country are gravely concerned about the obvious answer to this question. Newspaper and magazine polls are attempting to guage the attitude of the people. Empty churches reflect their attitude.

In 1945 the Church of England published the revealing pamphlet, "Toward the Conversion of England." It states, "The evidence . . . may be accepted as conclusive. They (Chaplains and others) testify with one voice to the fact of a wholesale drift from organised religion."

That the nation has not been "converted" since 1945 is borne out by "News Review's" current poll. Random poll conclusions: "48.8 percent attend less frequently than before the war." "49.7 percent do not attend at all." "14.4 percent attend weekly." Of those belonging to the Church of England—53.9 percent of the population—7.9 attend weekly.

It apparently can be said that the British people—who have deeply religious traditions—are now apathetic to churches.

How has the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints grown in recent years?

The Church has doubled its membership, now at one million, since the end of World War I. It will, at the present birth and death rate percentages, double its population every 26 years. At the last October General Conference, Richard L. Evans, quoting from the religious census published in the "Christian Herald," stated that no Church in America had a greater per capita increase in membership than ours last year.

There have been 19 stakes organised since President George Albert Smith became head of the Church 2½ years ago. When President Smith entered the Council of the Twelve 44 years ago, there were 21 missions. There are now 44.

This year the Church has opened missions in Finland and Uruguay; divided the East Central States Mission in America, creating a new mission; re-opened the Palestine-Syrian and Japanese Missions. The Mexican Mission has expanded into Central America. More work is being done among American Indians than ever before. Three new districts have been created in the Swedish Mission. Netherlands missionaries are beginning work in Flemish Belgium. Missionaries in France, Czechoslovakia, and elsewhere in Europe find receptive interest in the gospel message. Local German missionaries are having much success.

The Church is growing. Four thousand missionaries, unpaid by the Church, are throughout the world preaching its precepts. Literally thousands of members officer and teach its auxiliaries, contribute time and effort to its Welfare Programme, and make up its lay priesthood.

What of the Church in Britain?

Contrary to the general religious trends noted in Britain, activity in the Church here is constantly increasing. Nearly a score of branches have been organised or reopened this year. Fifty-eight auxiliaries — Sunday Schools,

—continued on page 383

KENNETH BARWICK—BOY OF ACHIEVEMENT

IT is with great pleasure and deep affection that we introduce to **Star** readers Kenneth James Barwick of Rochdale, Lancashire. Here is a young boy of fifteen years of age whose achievements during the last twelve months have brought honours to both him and his school.

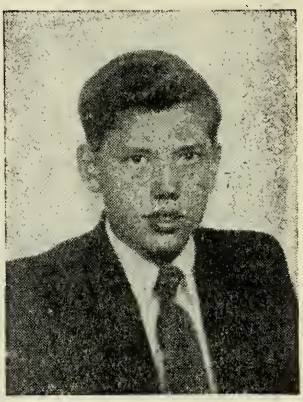
Recently, a contest was organised in the city of Rochdale wherein a prize was to be awarded to the person who could paint the most attractive poster in connection with the Road Safety Campaign. Another competition was organised, a prize to be awarded to the person painting the most attractive poster for the Rochdale Amateur Gardener's Society. Both contests were encouraged by the schools throughout Rochdale. All pupils were considered eligible. Kenneth Barwick eagerly eyed the contests' rules, took a glance at the prizes, pulled out his paints and went to work. In due time, two prize-winning posters were completed. Kenneth won both contests outright.

It was a big day for Kenneth when he was awarded two monetary prizes for himself and a silver cup for his school.

Kenneth Barwick is also a keen woodworker. He has made several model ships which are the envy of his many friends. He is truly a handyman about the house and Church and has repaired and reconditioned many articles that were theretofore unusable.

In the field of athletics, Kenneth is also a standout. He has represented his school in track and field events and has been very successful. He has played on the M Men cricket, soft-ball, baseball, and football teams and has always played well.

In Church he is admired and loved by all for his good work. He holds the



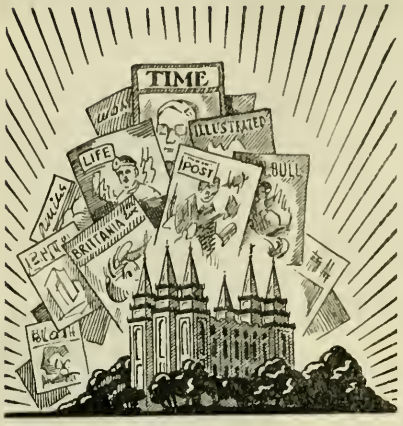
Kenneth Barwick

office of a Teacher in the Aaronic Priesthood, and as such prepares and passes the Sacrament and looks after the song books. He is now serving as Secretary in the Sunday School organisation. In M.I.A. he works just as hard, and often brings someone along to investigate the Church teachings.

During the summer months, Kenneth Barwick was assigned the task of carrying the stand used by the speakers at the open-air meetings in Rochdale back to the Chapel. On one occasion he was called on to speak. He promptly stepped up on the stand and delivered a sermon on the Articles of Faith. He has also participated in branch teaching and tracting.

The **Millennial Star**, in behalf of the Saints in Britain, extends its congratulations to Kenneth Barwick. May he ever have the desire to continue in the paths of righteousness and to continue to develop his many talents. May he constantly exemplify to his friends and associates the standards and ideals of a youth of Zion.

THE CHURCH AND THE PRESS IN BRITAIN



THE following article appeared in a recent issue of the "Sunday Mercury" (Birmingham).

MIDLAND MORMONS IN THE U.S.A.

By Chester M. Smith

"Sunday Mercury"
Special Correspondent

Salt Lake City, Utah.

AMONG nearly 400 former residents of the British Isles who met here last month at the semi-annual reunion of the British Mission, Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints (Mormons), were about 30 who had arrived from Birmingham, England, during the past nine months.

Interesting and happy people are these recent arrivals. An additional 30 members of the Birmingham branch of the Mormon church are expected to join friends and relatives here by Christmas.

Contrasted with days when the economic depression made it difficult for immigrants to obtain any kind of work here from 1929 until about 1934, the economic climate is favourable, with new industries being established. A shortage of all kinds of man-power, particularly skilled workers, ensures jobs for any and all who come.

Among the relatively recent arrivals is bearded, 25-year-old Alvin Gittins, with his wife and young son. A former student at Kidderminster School of Arts, where he became an art master, young Mr. Gittins exhibited with the Royal Society of British Artists before coming here.

THE PAINTER

In Utah he has painted portraits of many notable citizens, among them the president of the Mormon church. He arrived here in January, 1946, won his Bachelor of Arts degree at Brigham Young University in the following December, became guest instructor in artistic anatomy there, and now is an art instructor at the University of Utah.

Mr. and Mrs. Gittins left Salt Lake City a month ago for New York City to meet Mr. Gittins' parents, Mr. and Mrs. William L. Gittins, and two sisters and a brother who are coming here to make their home. The senior Mr. Gittins was an accountant in Kidderminster.

Another British addition to Salt Lake City's teaching fraternity is Norman Dunn, educated at Kidderminster School of Science and Art and at Saltley College, Birmingham, who arrived in Utah last Christmas Day and stepped into a position as English instructor at Brigham Young University.

Although thoroughly grounded in teaching in British schools, Mr. Dunn, now in his 60's, might reasonably expect a difficult time adjusting himself to different customs and ideas of this country.

"The kindness, courtesy, helpfulness and friendliness I have enjoyed everywhere here have almost completely

eliminated any strain of readjustment," Mr. Dunn said.

"I like the freedom, the feeling of brotherhood among the faculty and the friendly relationship between teachers and students," he added.

He said the English people who, during wartime, had no leisure because of long hours after work spent fire-spotting and in other war activities, would look with wonder at the many activities and tasks performed by the Americans. "People seem scarcely to know when to stop," he said.

Whereas in England a man is looked upon as a "poacher" if he works part-time at something other than his regular position, this is considered perfectly legitimate in America. "It is honourable to earn money in many ways, even to roll up one's sleeves and work as a farm hand on occasion," he continued.

Snobbishness and class distinction are virtually absent here, he believes.

Arriving with Mr. Dunn were his wife, their two sons, a daughter-in-law and grandson. One of the sons is now teaching music in Salt Lake City.

To Mrs. Edward Garrudley Armstrong, a secretary, who, with her husband, a locomotive fireman working out of Birmingham, came to Utah last winter, the most difficult problems of readjustment have been the "quirks in American spelling" and what to her are the hot weather and over-heated homes and offices in cold weather.

She, too, said she is delighted with the friendliness and informality of people here.

"You know, sometimes things can be carried a little too far," Mrs. Armstrong said. "I was talking over the telephone with a stenographer at one of the offices in the State Capitol. She closed the conversation by saying: 'Okydoke.' Back in England the most she could have said was: 'Very well, thank you, madame.'"

The Armstrongs settled first at Provo, where Mr. Armstrong obtained work without delay at the new £40,000,000 Geneva steel plant. His first day, he confessed, was a hard one, because the American locomotives were so radically different from the British ones. Not because he disliked railroad work, but because he wanted more regular hours, he moved to Salt Lake City and now works for a wholesale grocery firm.

Household furniture is relatively much cheaper than in England, but cabinet work in some of the less expensive furniture is such that no self-respecting British workman would countenance, Mrs. Armstrong told me.

Other things "not so good in America," Mrs. Armstrong finally admitted, were "too much loafing among Government employees" and carelessness and laziness among delivery boys. "Bus drivers, police and railroad employees, however, are exceptionally courteous and obliging," she added.

To Mrs. Reginald Thornell who, with her husband, an electric power substation operator, and son and daughter who came here within the past year, the American women's domestic conveniences are the joy of life.

"I just love the washing machines, sewing machines, stoves, refrigerators and furnaces here," she said. "The American women don't have to work nearly as hard as we did over in Birmingham."

Her husband now is engaged in the same kind of work as he was in Birmingham and her son is a machinist at the Geneva steel plant.

Alvin Thomas, Birmingham watchmaker and member of the famous A.I.D. (Aeronautical Inspection Directorate), during the war, his wife, and their three sons find the abundance of fresh fruit and other foods ("anything you want to buy"), and the rugged mountains and wooded canyons of Utah a delight.

—continued on page 382

Edito

THE "MILLENNIAL STAR"— YESTERDAY AND TODAY

IN this, the concluding issue of the 109th volume of the **Star,** I should like to depart from the ordinary vein of the editorial page and present to you some interesting facts and figures concerning the oldest existant publication in the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints—the **Millennial Star.**

Actually, the history of the **Star** is most unique. It has its beginnings back in April, 1840, when at a General Conference of the Church held at Preston, Lancashire, at which Brigham Young and a majority of the Council of the Twelve Apostles were in attendance, it was decided that a Church periodical would be published in the British Mission with Parley P. Pratt as editor. The first issue of the **Star** made its appearance during the latter part of the following month in the city of Manchester.

The **Millennial Star** has had among its editors and associate and assistant editors six of the eight presidents of the Church. Included in the list of editors of the **Star** are Brigham Young, Wilford Woodruff, Orson Pratt, George Q. Cannon, Joseph F. Smith, Heber J. Grant, Charles W. Penrose, James E. Talmage, George Albert Smith, David O. McKay, George F. Richards, John A. Widtsoe and Joseph F. Merrill. Some of the first issues included writings by the Prophet Joseph Smith, Oliver Cowdery and other early Church leaders.

The **Star** has recorded nearly 108 years of Church and British Mission history. It contained contemporary accounts of the building and exodus of Nauvoo, the City Beautiful; it included eye-witness reports of the activities of the mobs directed against the Saints in the early history of the Church; and it reported the progress of the Pioneers as they made their trek across the vast plains of America to the Great Salt Lake. Many revelations given through the Prophet Joseph Smith were recorded in the **Star** during the life-time of the Prophet. Upon his death, a special edition of the **Star** was printed in order to inform the British Saints of this tragedy.

The history of the **Millennial Star** is great, indeed. The early issues have provided us with facts concerning the early history of the Church and the British Mission that have proved invaluable. Then, too, inasmuch as many of the letters that were interchanged among the Apostles and other leaders of the Church were published in the **Star** verbatim, much valuable correspondence has been preserved.

Of interest, perhaps, in emphasizing the span of time over which the **Millennial Star** has served, are these facts: that this volume is the 109th volume; that this issue is the 5,079th issue, and that this

orial

very page is the 81,655th page. The **Millennial Star** is at present distributed in almost every county in Great Britain, in twenty of the forty-eight states of America, and in twenty-six different countries throughout the world.

The **Star** of today, although somewhat different in design and make-up than the **Star** of yesterday, has the same main objectives in view—those of further edifying and enlightening those readers who have a testimony of the divinity of the Gospel of Jesus Christ and of attracting and encouraging those readers who are searching for the truth but who have not yet embraced the doctrines of the Restored Church.

Beginning with this issue is the first of a series of six articles written by Professor James L. Barker, now serving as President of the French Mission. These articles should be of special interest to those who are seeking additional testimony as to the validity of the Gospel of Jesus Christ. In this issue, also, is an article by James Hunter Bailey who, shortly before his scheduled entrance into the Catholic priesthood, was introduced to the teachings of the Restored Church and was able to recognise it as the true Church of Jesus Christ. In his article, Brother Bailey tells of his reactions as he studied the doctrines of Mormonism and of the reasons of his decision to enter the waters of baptism.

Recent **Stars** have featured articles by Vivian Meik, former diplomatic correspondent for "The People" and a new convert to the Church in Britain. Although swamped with speaking assignments in Zion and with preparing daily columns for the "Deseret News," Brother Meik informs the **Millennial Star** that he expects to write additional articles especially for the readers of the **Star** to be published in the near future.

Regular monthly articles by President Alma Sonne of the European Mission have brought much favourable comment to the offices of the **Millennial Star.** Although short in length, President Sonne's articles are powerful and emphatic in their deliverance of the Gospel message. Other features of the **Star** include articles by General Authorities of the Church and other Church leaders, messages from the Mission Presidency, and the Church and the Press in Britain. Many additional articles and features are planned for the future issues of the **Star.**

I wish to take this opportunity to thank all of you for your support and for the encouraging comments which we have received. We of the editorial staff will endeavour to do our best in presenting you the best obtainable reading material. We hope that you will enjoy it and that you also invite your friends and neighbours to become readers of the **Star.** It is our humble desire that the standards of the **Millennial Star** will always be in accordance with that of a Church publication and that its readers will always find it most interesting and edifying.—WILLIAM R. CALLISTER

World Church News

TWO NEW CHURCH BOOKS RELEASED.—Two new volumes, "Gospel Interpretations," by Elder John A. Widtsoe of the Council of the Twelve, and "What of the Mormons," by Gordon B. Hinkley, have recently been released for sale. "Gospel Interpretations" is a companion book to "Evidences and Reconciliations," which was published a few years ago. In this new volume, Elder Widtsoe answers many of the current questions that have been asked him concerning the doctrines and teachings of the Restored Church. "What of the Mormons," by Gordon B. Hinkley, is a "simple, well told, easily understandable story of Mormonism, its origin, its organisation, its beliefs, and its programme today as it is understood and participated in by nearly a million people throughout the world."

CONSTRUCTION OF LOS ANGELES TEMPLE AWAITS ZONING DECISION.—Immediate work on the construction of the new Los Angeles Temple of the Church will begin as soon as a favourable decision by the Los Angeles City Planning Commission as to the assurance of proper zoning restrictions is rendered. The Associated Press, one of the foremost of America's national news agencies, quoted President George Albert Smith as saying, "We've got the land but we will not build until we are sure a warehouse or some similar project will not be erected next door." The Church has recently officially applied to Los Angeles Planning Commission for permission to erect a £250,000 Temple on the approved site. The population of the Latter-day Saints in Southern California at present is approximately 75,000 and is constantly growing.

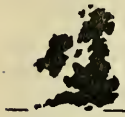
CLOTHING DRIVE BY RELIEF SOCIETY NETS 619,904 ARTICLES.—The Relief Society Clothing Drive, began in May in order to supply much needed clothing to the Saints in Europe, has netted a total of 619,904 articles. This includes 118,167 pieces of men's clothing, 150,599 pieces of women's clothing, 199,733 pieces of children's clothing, 92,781 pieces of babies clothing, 2,253 quilts, 1,226 blankets, 689 sheets, 40,056 donated articles such as needles, thread, yarn, soap powder, etc., and 14,400 miscellaneous articles. Countries benefiting from these shipments are Norway, Finland, Holland, Belgium, France, Germany, Denmark, Czechoslovakia, the Palestine-Syrian Mission, and Great Britain.

TEMPORARY MISSION ASSIGNMENT.—Due to the illness of President Samuel R. Bringhurst of the Northwestern States Mission, Elder Clifford E. Young, Assistant to the Council of the Twelve, will assume temporary charge of the Northwestern States Mission.

EASTERN STATES MISSIONARIES PARTICIPATE IN TELEVISION BROADCAST. — Elders Richard L. Clissold and Douglas H. Parker of the Eastern States Mission were recently televised in Schenectady, New York. The elders presented the programme themselves. It is believed to be the first time in any mission that the Church has participated in a television broadcast.

Sister **ESTHER FULLER** was transferred from the Birmingham District to the Nottingham District on November 14th.

Sister **IRENE FREEMAN** was transferred from the Liverpool District to the Manchester District on November 14th.



DISTRICT ACTIVITIES

BIRMINGHAM DISTRICT

Reported by E. John S. Jones

Elders Clarence R. Campbell and Melvin A. White, labouring in Northampton, recently presented a slide lecture at the Methodist Youth Club. They were well received. The local minister referred to it as a "most stimulating talk." The lecture was arranged by Kenneth F. Bennett, who is employed as the Youth Leader for Bletchley.

Kingstanding Sunday School held its Harvest Festival Service on October 26th. Songs, poems, and re-told stories were given by the children, most of whom are non-members. A violin solo was given by Sunday School Superintendent Lamar Empey, and a duet sung by Winifred Stokes and Margaret Taylor. Sixty children and forty adults were present.

The Birmingham Branch M.I.A. held its Halloween Party at the Birmingham Chapel. A good selection of thrills were provided by the missionaries in a "ghost room." This was followed by a dance and refreshments. There were among all Latter-day Saints.

M.I.A. meetings are progressing very successfully with good attendances. Under the direction of Elder Albert Eccles, as music director, the class has learned a lot about music and has enjoyed each lesson. Elder Ray Lawrence, as speech director, has given the class some very useful points on public speaking.

HULL DISTRICT

Reported by Helen Bryant

On October 26th, the Leeds, Newcastle and Hull Districts held their Sunday School Convention in Hull. One hundred and thirty members enjoyed a carefully planned programme. George H. Smith of the Sunday School Board presided and District President Arthur V. Nettleship conducted the exercises. The "Raikes" Sunday School was portrayed by the Newcastle and Leeds Districts and the Hull District presented the modern Sunday School. Marion Barrett skillfully led approximately twenty children in the model Sunday School lesson, "The Feeding of the Five Thousand." The general feeling of all present was that this, the

Alma L. Petersen reports that he has never seen the meeting houses so crowded. Conferences have also been completed in the Norwegian Mission. President and Sister A. Richard Peterson report that more strangers attended the meetings than at any time since their return to Norway.

FRENCH MISSION HEADQUARTERS MOVE TO GENEVA. — French Mission headquarters, previously in Paris, have been moved to Geneva. The new address is: Chalet Trafford—Bellevue-Genthod, Geneva, Switzerland.

PRESIDENT SONNE VISITS SWEDEN. — When President Sonne visited Lulea, Sweden, this summer, he took pictures at 12.30 a.m. as it was still light at that hour in the far northern city. Returning there late in October, he found the ground covered with snow and the temperature below zero. The spirit of the gospel was

PRESIDENT PIRANIAN IS IN BEIRUT.—President Badwagan Piranian of the Palestine-Syrian Mission arrived in Beirut, Lebanon, early in November. All missions under the direction of the European Mission president are now headed by presidents from Zion for the first time since before the war.

British Mission

ARRIVALS AND ASSIGNMENTS

The following missionaries arrived in the British Isles aboard the "Queen Elizabeth" on October 24th:

Elder EDWARD WILLIAM ATTWOOD of Sandy, Utah, was assigned to labour in the London District.

Elder PAUL HOWE MAESER of Salt Lake City, Utah, was assigned to labour in the Scottish District.

Elder ARTHUR B. CHASE of Pocatello, Idaho, was assigned to labour in the Scottish District.

Elder GORDON L. GRAVES of Salt Lake City, Utah, was assigned to labour in the Hull District.

The following missionaries arrived in the British Isles aboard the "Queen Mary" on October 31st:

Elder GERALD WELLS WILKINSON, JNR., of Sacramento, California, was assigned to labour in the Bristol District.

Elder JACK LEROY CORNIA of Salt Lake City, Utah, was assigned to labour in the Manchester District.

Elder DANIEL CLARK KELLER of Manti, Utah, was assigned to labour in the Bristol District.

Elder JOHN HUNTER GRAY of Hawthorne, California, was assigned to labour in the Newcastle District.

Elder BRUCE ROCKWOOD CURTIS of Salt Lake City, Utah, was assigned to labour in the Newcastle District.

Elder RALPH LEONIDAS MECHAM of Salt Lake City, Utah, was assigned to labour in the London District.

Elder ARCHIE JUNIOR HASKINS of Bell, California, was assigned to labour in the London District.

Elder CALIVIN ARNOLD LAMBERT of Salt Lake City, Utah, was assigned to labour in the Manchester District.

APPOINTMENTS AND TRANSFERS

Elder ALBERT C. HOPKINSON was transferred from the Nottingham District to the Manchester District on November 24th.

Elder EDWARD R. SHURTLIFF was appointed Travelling Lecturer on November 12th. Elder Shurtliff previously laboured in the Welsh District.

Elder LELAND W. RAWSON and **Sister EVA T. RAWSON** were transferred from the Manchester District to the Liverpool District on November 13th.

Elder THOMAS C. MADILL and **Sister HILDA M. MADILL** were transferred on November 13th from the Bristol District to the Manchester District.

Sister RUTH GATES was transferred on November 14th from the Nottingham District to the Manchester District.

Sister **ESTHER FULLER** was transferred from the Birmingham District to the Nottingham District on November 14th.

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The Birmingham Branch M.I.A. held its Halloween Party at the Birmingham Chapel. A good selection of thrills were provided by the missionaries in a "ghost room." This was followed by a dance and refreshments. There were about forty in attendance.

BRISTOL DISTRICT

Reported by Frances B. Herman

A Halloween party was held in the Bristol Branch Hall on Zion Road on Thursday, October 30th. The hall was very appropriately decorated by Elders Albert Eccles and Ray Lawrence. Honours go to members of the Relief Society who prepared an excellent supper. A very enjoyable evening was had by all present.

On Sunday, November 2nd, the Branch had the pleasure of welcoming Elders Gerald Wilkinson from Sacramento, California, and Dan Keller from Manti, Utah.

M.I.A. meetings are progressing very successfully with good attendances. Under the direction of Elder Albert Eccles, as music director, the class has learned a lot about music and has enjoyed each lesson. Elder Ray Lawrence, as speech director, has given the class some very useful points on public speaking.

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IRISH DISTRICT

Reported by Anne B. Dunn

A baptismal service was held on November 9th in the open sea at Carnelea, County Down. Hubert Wilson, George Walker, and Elizabeth Kenna Walker were baptised by Elder Albert E. Walker. They were confirmed later at the Belfast Branch Hall. Hubert Wilson was confirmed by Elder Albert E. Walker; George Walker was confirmed my Elder L. Vaughn Merrell; and Elizabeth Kenna Walker was con-

firmed by District President Carl H. Whatcott.

Recent changes in branch presidents in the Irish District are as follows: Elder Albert E. Walker was released as Branch President of the Belfast Branch and Robert Dougherty was sustained; Branch President Christian Steele of the Dublin Branch was released and William Robert Lynn was sustained in his stead.

A party was recently held for the Primary children under the direction of Rosetta Larmour. Twenty-four children were in attendance and had a wonderful afternoon of games.

On November 2nd, a Primary Conference was held at the Belfast Branch Hall. Rosetta Larmour presided over the meeting and Dorothy Ferris conducted. Participants on the programme included David Dumigan, Trixie Ditty, Joseph Ditty, Jnr., Ethel Smith, Anita Skillen, Brian Ditty, Jean Beggs, Elsey Stewart, Terry Nelson, Muriel Chambers, and Rosetta Larmour, the Primary Mother. Approximately sixty members and friends were in attendance.

A Harvest Thanksgiving Service was held at the Branch Meeting Hall on October 5th with Elsye Dowdall presiding and Dorothy Ferris conducting. Edith Lynn, Lillian Ditty, Joseph Ditty, and Elsye Dowdall all took part on the programme. The Relief Society Chorus rendered a beautiful number.

The following evening, October 6th, the fruit and vegetables were sold and the proceeds were turned over to Welfare.

LEEDS DISTRICT

Reported by Ralph Jack

Reorganisation of the Bradford Branch was effected Sunday, October 26th, with Stanley Robertshaw sustained and set apart as Branch President. His counsellors are Arthur Warnes and George Pitts. President William C. McCormick and his counsellors were released with a hearty vote of thanks.

Frank Holroyd was sustained as President of the Halifax Branch at the re-opening of that Branch on October 12th. Jack Wilkenson is in charge of the Sunday School, and Elizabeth Wilkenson was sustained as Relief Society President. Since the opening date, attendance at all meetings has been increasing.

A costume Halloween party for the District was sponsored by the Dewsbury Branch at its new home, October 31st, and was rated by everyone present as a "chilling" success. Thrills in the basement Horror Chamber were many.

High-lighting an evening's entertainment, a sketch, "This Is the Place," was given by Beehive girls of the Bradford Branch at the Branch Chapel on November 1st. The programme included also a comedy skit in which the Scouts participated. Noteworthy individual contributions were by Misses Muriel Weatley, Janey Booth, Mrs. Kathryn Jones and by Herbert Walker and George Pitts.

Sunday School members of the District gave full support to the tri-district Sunday School Conference held October 26th at Hull. The journey both ways was made quite pleasant by community singing and story telling. Members of the Bradford, Dewsbury, and Leeds Branch participated.

LIVERPOOL DISTRICT

Reported by Howard C. Macfarlane

Organising and reorganising have been the watchwords of the District for the past two months, with many socials creating an added interest for many. The following officers have been sustained in the various branches:

Wigan: Herbert S. Walker, Branch President; Clifford Hartley, First Counsellor; Fred Fellows, Second Counsellor.

Preston: Elder John Cannon, Sunday School Superintendent; May Jamieson, First Assistant; Ellen Nutter, Second Assistant; Gertrude Corless, Secretary; Sarah Cookman, Relief Society President; Elsie Scott, First Counsellor; Gertrude Corless, Secretary; Harold Corless, M.I.A. President; Bessie Corless, Second Counsellor; Jean Brodie, Secretary; Bessie Corless, Primary Mother.

Burnley: Nancy Lord, Relief Society President; Lillian Moore, First Counsellor; Nancy Lomas, Second Counsellor; Eliza Holmes, Secretary.

Liverpool: Anna Willis, Relief Society President; Evelyn Robinson, First Counsellor; Virginia Devaroux, Second Counsellor; Marie Fife, Secretary; Trevor James, Y.M.M.I.A. President; James Aitken, First Counsellor; John Patey, Second Counsellor; Doris Currin, Y.W.M.I.A. President; Euphermia Sands, First Counsellor; Joan Smith, Second Counsellor.

Blackburn: Dorothy Sharrock, Relief Society President; Lillian Harrison, First Counsellor; Esther Gregory, Second Counsellor; Herbert Sharrock, Sunday School Superintendent; Henry Smith, First Counsellor.

Baptismal services are being arranged in the near future. It is expected that the number being baptised will run into two figures.

LONDON DISTRICT

Reported by Ruth Millard

A Halloween party was held in South London Branch on November 1st, under the supervision of the M.I.A. Fancy dress was worn and the two prizes were won by Jean Wallace of the Catford Branch and David Smith of South London Branch. There was a large attendance and all had an enjoyable evening.

On November 9th, the South London Branch Conference was held. Over one hundred friends and members were in attendance. President Alma Sonne of the European Mission was in attendance.

The South London Primary held a Halloween party on October 31st. Gwladys Sparks, District Primary Supervisor, was in attendance. A total of thirty-eight children were present. One of the features of the party was a number rendered by the percussion band. Apples, sweets and presents were given to the Primary children. Consie Wynn, Primary Mother, conducted the programme.

On October 26th, Brighton Branch Conference was held, under the direction of Branch President J. W. Perry. There was an average attendance of forty at the two sessions. The Primary gave six skits in the first session. They were most interesting and very well performed.

Luton Branch Conference was held on November 2nd, under the direction of Branch President A. E. Osborne. The Sunday School gave a dramatisation of the first Sunday School and one of the present day. The attendance at all three sessions was good.

MANCHESTER DISTRICT

Reported by Norman T. Woodhead

The Sunday School officers of the Rochdale Branch held a social on October 18th. Superintendent Fred Waddington acted at M.C.

On October 11th, the Rochdale M Men accepted a challenge to a game of hockey from the Rochdale Gleaner Girls. The game resulted in a win for the M Men, although they were thought by some to have been guilty of breaking most of the rules of the game. Afterwards, tea was served at the home of Branch President Sylvester H. Dale. This was followed by a show.

Halloween was celebrated on November 1st by the Relief Society and M.I.A. of the Rochdale Branch in a co-ordinated party. Y.M.M.I.A. President Herbert Woodhead acted as M.C. and was assisted by his officers. Relief Society President Alice Beet and her officers were responsible for the refreshments. The evening's entertainment consisted of a Treasure Hunt, Blindfold Boxing and Three-legged Boxing, Bobbing for Apples, Naughts and Crosses. During the evening, most of those present fell victims to the pranks of Herbert Woodhead, Kenneth Barwick and Arnold Healey. But as a finale, these three fell victims to a prank organised by their former male victims. The evening ended with a firework display!

On Saturday, November 1st, the Hyde Branch held a Halloween Party in the home of John and Jessie Higinbottom. A ghost story was read by the host and solos and monologues were contributed by Thomas H. Boothroyd, Branch President Albert Woodruff and Briton Beverly. The social ended with a potatoe pie supper provided by the sisters.

The Hyde Branch is making headway with cottage meetings and branch teaching. The Relief Society has been organised with Avis Boothroyd as president.

NEWCASTLE DISTRICT
Reported by Joyce H. Tiffen

To celebrate the twenty-first birthdays of Elders Douglas Loosle and Clarence Olsen, the missionaries in the District were invited to tea on October 20th at the home of President and Mrs. F. W. Oates, after which a social was held in the Sunderland Branch Chapel under the direction of Margaret Rayne, Relief Society President. Games were conducted by Gladys Quayle and a programme was presented which included a quartette by the missionaries, a piano recital, and solos by Hazel Oates. Refreshments were served by the sisters, which included ice-cream and jelly, cakes, minerals, oranges and apples. A most enjoyable time was had by all who participated in the festivities and a spirit of humour and good fellowship permeated the occasion.

NORWICH DISTRICT
Reported by Alfred F. Woodhouse

On October 12th, the presiding officers of the Lowestoft Branch, Sidney W. Coleby, President; William H. Daniels and Ronald S. Coleby, First and Second Counsellors, respectively; were released. Leslie Coleby was sustained as Branch President, with Ronald S. Coleby as First Counsellor. Sidney Coleby and William H. Daniels had faithfully fulfilled the duties of their respective offices for many years.

A District social was held at Lowestoft on November 1st in honour of the recently released District Presidency. Under the direction of District M.I.A. Advisor, Betty Mitchell, assisted by Elder George Palmer, a happy evening was enjoyed by a large number of friends. Refreshments were served by M.I.A. officers of Lowestoft Branch.

NOTTINGHAM DISTRICT
Reported by Ruth Gates

Sixteen friends of the Hucknall Branch gathered at the home of Mrs. Eliza Cottrell on November 9th. Wilford Orton orated on the current topic of Bishop Barnes of Birmingham and the Church's attitude toward science. This was followed by a discussion. Musical selections were rendered by District President Koln Gunn McKay and Elder Vaughn Terry and Mr. Hyrum Stokes. Jean Astle and Jessie Cottrell served refreshments. This fireside was under the direction of the Gleaners.

Seventy people attended the children's programme on October 18th, sponsored by the Mansfield Sunday School under the direction of Superintendent Minnie Wilson.

On October 30th twenty-six Relief Society sisters gathered at the District Mission Home and enjoyed a Pioneer Tea, singing, dancing, and retold stories. Two sisters with fifty years membership in the Church related interesting experiences of their early days.

Sixty-two Saints and friends of the Eastwood Branch met on October 29th for a Halloween party. The programme included musical items by several non-members, community singing, refreshments and games and a spooky skit. M.I.A. Presidents Evelyn Dunn and Sydney Hill were in charge.

On October 11th, a birthday party was held in honour of a well-loved member in the Nottingham Branch, Edith Shepherd. Under the direction of the Relief Society, thirty guests helped to celebrate her seventieth year. Another birthday party for young Alma Tinson was held on October 25th. Forty guests participated in the games under the direction of Wilford J. and E. Sydney Robinson.

Twenty-four members and friends had hair-raising experiences at a Halloween Party which was held at the Nottingham Branch on October 28th, under the direction of the M.I.A. A real live ghost was a feature of the evening. The programme also included a series of spooky tales and party games.

A social sponsored by the Leicester Branch Choir on October 26th, under the direction of Roy Roberts, was attended by forty people. Refreshments were served by the Relief Society.

The Gleaner Girls of the Leicester Branch, under the direction of Gleaner Leader G. Doreen Green, were hostesses to fifty-two friends, who were well rewarded for their attendance at the programme and dance held on November 8th. A splendid programme had been prepared including an inspirational tableau and story of Ruth the Gleaner. Refreshments were served by the girls.

SCOTTISH DISTRICT

Reported by Reed M. Izatt

Activity in the Scottish District has greatly increased since the opening of the M.I.A. Autumn season. The Glasgow Branch held, under the direction of Joseph McQueen, a Halloween Party on the 30th of October. A very enjoyable time was had by all.

Betty Leslie and Margaret McQueen have been released as teachers of one of the Home Primaries, and Marjorie Foote is now instructing the young people.

Proselyting work in Scotland has taken on added interest during the past several weeks as the Elders have begun preparations to present the story of "Mormonism" in three of the large universities in Scotland. A film on the "Historic Highlights of Mormonism" was given at the University of Glasgow on October 28th by Elder George K. Hardy and Elder Reed M. Izatt. Short lectures followed the film. Preparations are being made to present this same film to the University of Aberdeen and the University of Edinburgh in the near future.

The Edinburgh Branch is once again presided over by local priesthood members. William Stout was set apart on October 12th by President Selvoy J. Boyer as the Edinburgh Branch President. Elder L. Glade Greenhalgh was released from this position. The Relief Society of the Edinburgh Branch has been organised with Eliza Stout as President and May Houston and Anne Patterson as her counsellors.

Elder L. Glade Greenhalgh and Elder Verl J. Iverson are holding a Home Primary attended by non-members from the neighbourhood in which they live.

The Edinburgh Branch held a very successful Halloween get-together on October 31st. Over seventy persons were in attendance and a very enjoyable time was had by all. Elder Verl J. Iverson was in charge, Elder L. Glade Greenhalgh led the community singing, and Katherine Horner presented the programme and conducted the games. Treacled scones and apples were to be had in abundance. A ghost story was read by Ronald Charles and objects representing the story were passed around the group giving it an eerie effect, and making it very real to the listeners.

Under the direction of Betty Sutherland, the Aberdeen Branch carried out its Halloween Party in the form of a fancy dress evening. Twenty-five persons appeared in appropriate costumes to participate in the evening's entertainment. Games played included, "Crust and Crumbs," "Radio Forfeits," and "Pass the Soap." Betty Sutherland also led the group in community singing, which highlighted the evening.

Elders are once again working in Dundee, Scotland, which is mid-way between Glasgow and Aberdeen. Elders Junior E. Call and Paul Maeser are now labouring there. Plans are being made to re-open the Branch soon.

SHEFFIELD DISTRICT

Reported by Arvilla Smith

On October 25th, the Saturday evening preceding Sheffield District Conference, a play entitled, "It Shall Keep Thee," was presented by the Sheffield Branch M.I.A. This was followed by a dance in the Sheffield Branch Recreation Hall to the music of Alf Jobb's band of Barnsley. The Relief Society sisters served refreshments to the two hundred members and friends in attendance. The evening was planned and directed by the M.I.A. officers.

A very successful harvest festival was held in the Barnsley Branch on October 11th in the Latter-day Saint meeting hall. Relief Society President Gladys Mills and her assistants sponsored the affair. Proceeds from the sale of fruit and vegetables were given to the Welfare Fund.

On November 2nd, the Barnsley Branch was reorganised. Richard Birkhead is the new branch president, with Fred Mills and Alfred Leabury as his counsellors. Harry Hall was appointed Sunday School Superintendent, with Louis Beaumont and Raymond Crossland as his assistants and Glenis Crossland as secretary. Fred Mills was appointed Y.M.M.I.A. President, with Walter Scargill as First Assistant and Roy Birkhead as Second Assistant and Secretary. Ada Beaumont was appointed Y.W.M.I.A. President, with Rita Crossland as First Assistant, Ada Ellis as Second Assistant, and Margery Beaumont as Secretary. Margaret Dolby Smith was appointed Primary President with Doris Leabury as First Assistant and Barbara Birkhead as Second Assistant and Secretary.

The Barnsley Branch held a social evening and bonfire on November 5th in the Latter-day Saint Chapel grounds, under the direction of the M.I.A. Fireworks and games were enjoyed by all.

Baptismal services were held in the Sheffield Branch Chapel on November 8th. Walter Scargill of the Barnsley Branch was baptised by Elder John Smith and confirmed by Elder Blythe Moyes. Norma Scargill was baptised by Elder Smith and confirmed by Fred K. Birkhead.

On October 12th, the Sheffield Branch Presidency was reorganised as follows: George A. Stubbs, President; George Hampstead, First Assistant; George Bailey, Jr., Second Assistant; John Snow, Secretary.

On November 9th, the Sheffield Branch Relief Society held its autumn conference. A special programme of speech and musical items was presented by the members. Mary Laycock and her two counsellors were in attendance.

On November 1st, a Primary social was held in the Doncaster Latter-day Saint Hall under the direction of Primary President Maud Harbon. Fifty-five Saints and friends enjoyed a play entitled, "Safety Well," presented by the children. Refreshments were served by the Relief Society sisters.

WELSH DISTRICT

Reported by Gladys Mason

On October 4th, a District Union Meeting was held at Varteg Branch. Elder William C. Stone gave instruction on teaching.

A fire-side chat was held at the home of President and Mrs. Hayden Forward. It was well attended. Films of Utah and the temples were shown by President George Q. Bennett.

A Sunday School Convention was held at Cardiff on October 26th, with William O. Chipping, Superintendent of British Mission Sunday Schools, and President and Sister Bennett in attendance. The Varteg and Cardiff Sunday Schools took an active part and presented a most enjoyable programme.

Relief Society Conference was held at Varteg Branch on November 1st. It was well attended. Talks were given by Relief Society sisters. There were also several musical numbers.

Cecelia Roberts and Hilda Forward were released as President and Second Counsellor of the Varteg Branch Relief

Society respectively as they are sailing for America in the near future.

Under the direction of Nancy Tenney and Marion Allen, the Merthyr Tydfil Primary is making plans for a concert to be given during the Christmas holiday season. According to them, the group of children attending these Primary meetings is filled to overflowing with talent, and a first-rate production is expected. The proceeds from the concert will be used for a party for the children. There are about thirty to forty children attending the meetings and all are to have a part in the activities.

The annual Halloween party for the M.I.A. was held on Wednesday, October 29th. The chapel was decorated to fit the occasion with the traditional cats, witches, apples on strings, and the "bonfire" in the centre of the floor cast flickering shadows on the participants. High-lighting the programme was a minstrel act by Marion Allen and Nancy Tenney, piano solos by Jean Davies, vocal solos by Barbara Reese, and saxophone numbers by Elder Lorry E. Rytting. After a period of games in which all participated, everyone gathered around the bonfire and listened to the ghost stories given by Tommy Price and Elder Edward R. Shurtliff. The evening concluded with community singing. Thirty-six attended the social.

The Merthyr Tydfil Branch Scout Troop is showing much promise. Mr. George Reeves, the District Scout Commissioner, has been attending some of the sessions and has been the source of a great deal of encouragement to the boys. David B. Jones is helping in this organisation which now has three patrols.

The M.I.A. special interest classes are taking the study of speech, drama, and music. The speech classes have been led by Elder Shurtliff, with Nancy Tenney and Marion Allen leading the dramatic lessons and Elder Rytting supervising the music courses. During the past few weeks, Elder Rytting has shown some of his slides of the United States and England.

DISTRICT CONFERENCES

SHEFFIELD, LIVERPOOL, MANCHESTER, LONDON

THE autumn series of district conferences of the British Mission was brought to a conclusion with successful conferences held in Sheffield, Liverpool, Manchester and London.

The Sheffield District Conference was held on October 26th in the Sheffield Branch Chapel. The principal speakers were President and Sister Selvoy J. Boyer, President and Sister Wallace R. Reid and George F. Poole. Peak attendance was approximately 200.

The Liverpool District Conference was held on November 2nd. Visiting authorities included President and Sister Alma Sonne of the European Mission, and Presidents Boyer, Reid and Poole of the British Mission Presidency. The Conference was well attended, reaching a total of 182 in the evening session.

Manchester District Conference was held at the Cooperative Hall on November 9th. 175 members and friends were in attendance. The Mission Presidency and District missionaries were the principal speakers.

The London District Conference was held in the Wandsworth Town Hall on November 16th. In attendance were President and Sister Sonne and the British Mission Presidency and their wives. Peak attendance for the conference exceeded 300 members and friends.

PERSONALS

BIRTHS

WICKS. — The infant daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Robert Wicks of the St. Albans Branch, born on May 27th, 1947, was blessed by John Bullock on October 5th and given the name of Susan Ann.

McFARLANE.—Twin boys were born to Mr. and Mrs. Jay Batt McFarlane of Pontefract on September 20th. The infants were blessed by Elders Robert M. Francis and Robert I. Call on October 26th, and given the names of Ian Alexandra and Robert James, respectively.

GREENHALGH. — Ann Greenhalgh, infant daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Greenhalgh of Rochdale, born on August 17th, was blessed on October 12th by Norman Tyson Woodhead.

WHITTAKER. — The infant son of Alan and Ula Whittaker of the Burnley Branch, born on September 14th, was blessed on October 5th by Branch President John R. Moore and given the name of Brian.

HARTLEY.—The twin daughters of Clifford and Mary Hartley of the Wigan Branch, born on October 5th, were blessed on November 9th by their father and given the names of Dorothy and Carolyn.

★ ★

WICKS. — Bruce Kelvin, son of Mr. and Mrs. Robert Wicks of the St. Albans Branch, was blessed on October 5th by Branch President Ernest G. Osborn.

DEATHS

OSBORN. — Mrs. Maria Osborn, mother of Winifred M. Bullock of St. Albans, died on October 14th, aged eighty-four years. The funeral took place on October 17th at Hatfield Road Cemetery, under the direction of Elder Robert E. Riggs, who also dedicated the grave.

OSBORN. — On October 23rd, Mrs. Maria Osborn also of the St. Albans Branch, died at the age of eighty-two. The funeral was conducted on October 28th by Branch President Ernest G. Osborn, who also dedicated the grave. Mrs. Osborn had served as Relief Society president in the Branch for a number of years.

SKIDMORE.—Gertrude Skidmore of the Sheffield Branch died on October 31st in the Nether Edge Hospital.

EMIGRATIONS

BICKERSTAFF.—On November 13th, Alice Bickerstaff of the South London Branch left England for America aboard the "Marine Falcon." She has just recently been released as President of the Y.W.M.I.A. of the British Mission. She will make her home in Salt Lake City.

BANNATYNE. — On November 13th, Ena Bannatyne, also of the South London Branch, sailed for America aboard the "Marine Falcon." For the past year she has served as President of the Y.W.M.I.A. of the South London Branch. She will reside in Farmington, Utah.

BAILEY. — On October 23rd, James R. Hunter Bailey of the South London Branch left for America aboard the "Marine Marlin."

HOLMES. — Mr. and Mrs. Gordon Holmes and their son, Malcolm, all of the South London Branch, left on October 30th for Mesa, Arizona, where they will reside.

QUINNEY : AUTRAM. — Joseph T. Quinney, Elsie May Quinney, and Ivy Autram of the Sheffield Branch, left Southampton for America on November 13th aboard the "Marine Falcon." A farewell social was given in their honour on November 8th. Tokens of remembrance were presented to them.

DUCKWORTH.—Ellen C. Duckworth of the Burnley Branch sailed for Canada on September 27th aboard the "Chinese Prince." She will reside with her children and grandchildren in Toronto.

THORP.—Eric and Cicily May Thorp, and their daughter, Josephine, of the Gainsborough Branch, sailed for America on October 23rd aboard the "Marine Marlin." They will make their home in Lehi, Utah.

—continued from page 359

mind meaningless and redundant, suddenly sprang to life. In my graspings after the shibboleths of dogma, I had lost hold of the precious message of the Gospel in its pure simplicity.

It should not, of course, be assumed that the weakening of one's faith in one's hitherto professed religion implies an immediate acceptance of another one in its place. But as I have stated, the claims of Mormonism were such as could not be rejected out of hand by a sincere investigator. In consequence, I continued my inquiries, and the further I reasoned, the further I became impressed in the Mormon teachings. Gradually, I found myself believing these things.

EMBRACES RESTORED GOSPEL

In the middle of the inquiries I had removed from France to England and I decided to pick up the threads again through the British Mission. I attended a Latter-day Saint service on a Sunday evening. This service was an entirely new experience to me. I had not, at this time, quite broken with Catholicism and I must admit that I was a little ill at ease. But I was particularly impressed by the obvious sincerity of the Saints. I felt, despite everything, that the Spirit of God was truly present in that gathering. I felt that the Spirit was indeed dwelling in those who were preaching the Gospel.

I returned home and prayed that I might be led into the way of truth; that regardless of things, I might lead my life in accordance with the divine will. I believe God answered my prayer. I joined the Church.

I joined it because I was no longer in any doubt as to the claims of the Church to which I now have the privilege to belong. These claims are, in my opinion, irrefutable when judged in a spirit of conciliation divorced from prejudice.

In giving this very brief account of the circumstances whereby I came to be a member of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, I have refrained from elaborating on any of the exponents by which I was brought to a knowledge of the fullness of the Gospel; the "whys" and "wherefores" of the subject I have not touched on. This has already been done very thoroughly by other converts in brochures and books. The purpose of this short article has been merely to touch on the matter from an entirely personal point of view. Each convert must, by reason of his personality and outlook, approach the problem from a slightly different angle, although the arguments in support of the church remain very much the same for all those who inquire into its teachings. The materials with with we build our faith are owned equally by all of us. It is just the way we mix the materials which differs with each individual.

DEPARTURE FOR ZION

In conclusion, I should like to say a short farewell to the Saints in London. I am writing on the eve of my departure for the United States, for I have decided to live in Salt Lake City. Although I am very happy at the thought of living among the Saints in Zion, my departure has been saddened by my parting from the many friends I have found among the Saints in London. One of the attributes of holiness which I was not slow at finding in the Church which I have joined, is the spirit of charity and fellowship shown by all the Saints toward their fellow men. This spirit of fellowship has been most evident to me right from the start, and it was not long before my heart, usually a little chilly, was warming towards these fine people.

I now number many friends among the Saints in London, and thus my parting is touched with sorrow. In leaving, I wish to express my gratitude to them for the help they have given me in my search for truth, and I wish to thank them also for the hand of friendship they have extended to me. I wish them every blessing in their labours and I pray that the Spirit of the Lord may be always with them to help and guide them in their daily tasks.

THE CHURCH AND THE PRESS IN BRITAIN

—continued from page 367

"The first morning after my arrival here I started for the mountains before breakfast, not realising they were miles away," Mr. Thomas said.

Since his arrival here last April, Mr. Thomas has set up a small jewellery store and watch and clock repair shop at Holladay, a prosperous suburb of Salt Lake City.

"You couldn't do this over in England," he said. "You can buy someone else out, but you can't start a new business there because of Government restrictions and shortage of materials."

Wholesale supply houses are much more liberal here, extending credit and supplying merchandise on consignment to beginners starting with almost no capital, he said.

It is much easier to repair watches in America than in England, because British Customs regulations make it prohibitive to import needed watch parts from Switzerland.

Mr. Thomas's pet "peeve" is the way high school boys are permitted to drive their fathers' automobiles with hazard to life and limb along the country roads he frequents. "It is as much as your life is worth sometimes," he said, to keep away from them!"

Unable to afford a car yet (he drove one in England), he rides a bicycle to and from work. "Some of the local adult motorists are crazy," he added. "The speed cops should get on their track."

Cost of homes and the cost of living in general, he said, is much higher in America than in England, "but you live much better in this country."

Mr. Thomas said he misses British socialised medicine. Their youngest son was born just a month after their arrival in the U.S.A. Their total bill on this uncomplicated birth was £16 for ten days in the hospital, and £19 physician's fees.

"SPARE THE ROD"

Cost incident to the birth of their second son in Birmingham, where special attention and hospital treatment were required beyond the services of the midwife, amounted to only about £3 10s., the rest being taken care of by hospital and medical care schemes to which he belonged.

George A. Allan, aged 51, a former Kidderminster men's outfitter, although highly favouring the American way of life, said parents on this side of the Atlantic "spare the rod and spoil the boy," not exercising sufficient discipline.

He said robbery and theft appear to be more frequent here than in England, but he had had no first-hand experience with either.

Since arriving here last February, he has purchased two homes, reselling the first. Prices for homes, he said, are comparable with those in England.

Automobile traffic is remarkably well managed in the U.S.A., Mr. Allan believes, declaring it to be much easier to drive here than in England. "Your six-lane highways, traffic lights and many signs and aids are a great help and certainly cut down on accidents," he said.

Mr. Allan recalled that in Kidderminster he saw many of the same persons day after day for years as he walked along the streets. He knew the names and occupations of many of them, but they never spoke to one another, because they had not been introduced.

MORE PROFIT

On the first day he walked into the business district at Clearfield, Utah, near the home of his daughter, who had married a former Mormon missionary from Utah, people chatted with him. "I enjoy the informality here," he said.

After working at Clearfield several months, he is taking over management of a small store in Salt Lake City.

"American retailers, from my observation, make a larger percentage of profit on their goods than is prevalent in England," he said. "They also spend more on store improvements and advertising."

Government restrictions upon business are much less onerous in America than in England, he said. "There is not nearly so much red tape here."

Thomas and Florence Stead, here from Coventry, and Miss Beryl Heath, formerly of Birmingham, who arrived in June and is working for a jewellery firm, are strong boosters for America, although not to the disparagement of England.

Harry Clarke, radio producer and singer, who came to Salt Lake City in 1920, said that more than 75 Birmingham district residents have come here since that time. He estimates that in the 100 years since settlement of Utah began, more than 1,000 former residents of Birmingham have come here to make their homes.

"Many of these Birmingham people have done very well financially," Mr. Clarke said.

Mr. Clarke recalled that the lot of Mormons in Birmingham has not always been pleasant. His father, Joseph Clarke, died of injuries received during severe persecution of Mormons which reached its peak in 1914.

Then attending Saltley College, Birmingham, Harry Clarke had been expelled from school without a hearing because he was a Mormon. Later, when he had attained success on the stage in pantomime, he was forced to get out because of prejudice against his religion.

On coming to Salt Lake City he worked successively as a clerk in a newspaper "morgue," and then as a salesman. Forced out of a good position due to retrenchment incident to the economic depression, he began working full-time in radio, where he is now a recognised artist. He has a wife, four sons and daughters, and a grandchild.

25 CENTS A DAY

One of the wealthy and influential families of Salt Lake City today, that of the late John F. Bennett, harks back to Birmingham. Back in 1868, when he was only three years old, young John was brought to Salt Lake City by his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Richard Bennett, both of Birmingham.

He worked first for 25 cents a day helping a blacksmith, then in an art dealer's shop, and then went into the paint manufacturing business. Of his sons, one now operates the city's largest automobile agency, another the enlarged paint and glass company, a third is the manager of the city's largest departmental store, and one is chairman of the board of directors of a major bank.

Readjustment problems for Latter-day Saints coming here are minimised because social and recreational aspects of their church activities throw them into contact with the older residents here.

Mormon Church officials in England are desirous of building membership there and do not encourage emigration to Utah.

A DYNAMIC CHURCH

—continued from page 364

Primaries, Relief Societies, and M.I.A.'s —now function which did not exist on January 1st, 1947. Attendance at district conferences and regular meetings has increased considerably over last year. More members are paying more tithing than in 1946. Conversions are increasing as well.

The Church has a programme—which is working—to apply the teachings of Jesus in the lives of members. It offers the British people, and all peoples, a religion which does not change but is never out of date. Ours is a dynamic Church, for it is the Church of Jesus Christ. Knowledge of its achievements brings admiration. Investigation of its doctrines reveals truth.

Genealogical Microfilm Activities

By James R. Cunningham

THE gathering of the records in Great Britain is developing momentum. A bird's-eye view of the filming at present shows one operator, John Leach, filming in the National Library of Wales, Aberystryth; a second, Ralf Blakeburn, in the Lancashire Record Office, Preston; George Fudge, a third operator, in the parish church of St. Botolphs, Aldgate, London. The greatest total for a single week's work was reached by John Leach; 35,000 pages. To get this effort in focus, we need only to compare it to the time which would be taken in copying by hand. Say a typist copies fifty pages per day, it would take 700 days, or two years, to complete. Modern science has speeded things up with a vengeance.

Do your ancestors come from any of the parishes listed below? If so, you are fortunate, as these already have been filmed and are being shipped to the Genealogical Society in Salt Lake City, where they will be made available to anyone interested.

LANCASHIRE. — (Pedigrees, wills, tombstone inscriptions, jury lists, overseers' accounts, etc). Aldingham, Billings, Blackley, Blawith, Bolton, Brindle, Broughton in Furness, Burnley, Chorley, Church Kirk, Cockerham Croston, Dalton in Furness, Downham, Buxton, Earnsworth, Goosnargh, Great Harwood, Halton, Haslingden, Heapey, Hindley, Hoole, Horwich, Kirkham, Lancaster (Priory, St. Anne, St. John parishes), Leyland, Lowick, Manchester (parishes of St. Anne, St. Augustine, St. Clement, St. John, St. Mary, St. Matthew, St. Peter, All Saints, Cathedral, Collegiate, Christ Church, Gorton, Grosvenor St., and Flatt Chapel), Newchurch in Pendle, North Meols, Oldham, Over Kellet, Padiham, Pennington, Platt, Prescot, Preston, Ribchester, Ringley, Rochdale, Rusholme, St. Michael's on Wye, Samlesbury, Seathwaite, Stretford, Tatham, Todmorden, Tunstall, Warrington, Warton, Whalley, Wigan, Woodplumpton, and Wyresdale.

CHESHIRE.—(Pedigrees, wills, tombstone inscriptions, jury lists, overseers' accounts, etc.). Aldingham, Stockport.

If the home of your ancestors is not in the above lists, perhaps it will be in our next report on microfilming activities. Keep viewing the **Star.**

JESUS THE MESSIAH—
THE SAVIOUR OF THE WORLD

—continued fom page 355

After His ascension He sent the Holy Ghost to testify of Him, to bring to memory the things He taught, to enable men to understand the truth, to direct the church He founded and to unite them in love and brotherhood.

His apostles were His witnesses. However, men were not left dependent on human testimony alone: to all who obeyed—and to no others—the Holy Ghost was His witness.

Divinely revealed truth and divine leadership should have resulted in a unified world characterised by peace and brotherhood. But peace and brotherhood have not come to the world. Should we not ask why?

Is it because the world has lost the Gospel of Jesus Christ in its purity and fullness, together with the testimony and direction of the Holy Ghost?

Is it because the world has rejected the divine leadership of Jesus Christ?

We as missionaries of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints come as witnesses. We testify to the world that God lives; that Jesus is the Christ, the Saviour of the world; that His Gospel in its purity has again been restored.

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ILLUSTRATIONS OF I NEPHI (VI)

NEPHI BREAKS HIS BOW

[Painting by J. Leo Fairbanks

"We did travel for the space of many days, slaying food by the way with our bows and arrows, and our stones and our slings . . . I, Nephi, did break my bow which was made of fine steel. My brethren were angry because we did obtain no food . . . And Laman and Lemuel and sons of Ishmael did begin to murmur." (I Nephi 16: 14-29)